

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
ADVOCACY & AWARENESS COMMITTEE**

June 2, 2011, 10:00 a.m.

IAC Office, 100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Jon Ford, Chair

Minutes

Members present: none

Members via teleconference: Jon Ford, Pam Hicks, Jeff Kirk, John DePrez, Donna Catalano

Members absent: Gil Cárdenas, Kelly Schreckengast, Tetia Lee

IAC staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Rex Van Zant, Laura Frank, Dennis Hardin

Invited guest via teleconference: Marvin Curtis

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** IAC Commissioner Jon Ford opened the meeting at 10:04 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Consent Agenda.** Due to lack of a quorum present, no action was taken.

Mr. Ford moved to agenda item #5.

5. **Governor's Arts Awards.** IAC Executive Director Lewis Ricci reported that the Governor's office has approved the recommendation of the GAA Committee to bestow the Governor's Art Award upon five selected nominees, with one alternate. Official letters of notification have been sent to the winners of the awards. The primary date for the award ceremony will be September 23, with an alternate date to accommodate the Governor's schedule if needed. The award ceremony and dinner will be held on the campus of Indiana University – South Bend. South Bend resident and local GAA organizer Marvin Curtis gave a verbal update on plans for the event.

Mr. Ford returned to agenda item #3.

3. **IAC Advocacy Update.** Mr. Ricci reported that the IAC funding allocation from the National Endowment for the Arts will be reduced by 8% for FY 2012. He also reported that the Governor's office has mandated a 3% hold-back from the approved FY 2012 state budget. Altogether, IAC will see a budget reduction from FY 2011 of about \$150,000. He also presented a handout (attached) from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies which elaborates on the financial struggles of arts agencies in several

other states. Mr. Ricci stressed the importance of advocacy efforts on both the state and national level.

4. State Arts Advocates Update. Indiana Coalition for the Arts member Donna Catalano reported that the next meeting of INCA will be on June 9, 2011 and will include work on a new strategic plan for the organization. Mr. Ricci recommended that arts advocates in the state strive to hold conversations with gubernatorial candidates from both parties prior to the November 2012 election. He also remarked about plans to organize a reunion of current and former IAC Commissioners later this year; there are many living former Commissioners who were appointed by Governors from both political parties, and there would likely be some consensus regarding arts advocacy in a new state administration.

6. New Business. IAC Communications Manager Laura Frank discussed elements of the new state website, including a new events calendar. She also reported on changes in the delivery system of IAC's electronic newsletter. Mr. Van Zant and Ms. Frank reported on website and newsletter vital statistics.

7. Old Business. Mr. Van Zant reported that the state Office of Management and Budget has approved the IAC marketing plan for FY 2012, including funds to produce high-quality greeting cards to be sent to purchasers of the Arts Trust license plate. Mr. Ricci reported that the autumn Arts Midwest Executive Director's Summit will be held in Washington, D.C., and that efforts are under way to include appointments with Congressional representatives from the Arts Midwest member states. He also recommended taking steps to arrange meetings with members of Congress in their home offices within the state, perhaps inviting them and their staffs to attend the Governor's Arts Awards in September.

8. Adjourn. Mr. Ford thanked everyone for their participation and reminded the Committee of its next scheduled meeting on September 1, 2011. He closed the meeting at 10:55 a.m.